

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10

USIE-00 MC-02 EB-11 DRC-01 OMB-01 /144 W

----- 117338

O R 161320Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8076

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 14949

VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW, UK

SUBJECT: MBFR: "ALLIANCE APPROACH TO NEGOTIATIONS ON

MBFR"--PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS

REF: STATE 204145

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1. EMBOFF MADE PRESENTATION PER DEPT GUIDANCE TO RUTH OCT 16 AND RECEIVED PRELIMINARY RPT PRELIMINARY GERMAN REACTION AS FOLLOWS.

2. FRG WILL SUPPORT URGENT EXAMINATION OF PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS, PARTICULARLY: (A) WHICH PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES SHOULD BE INCLUDED; (B) APPLICATION TO U.S./ SOVIET FORCES ONLY OR TO THOSE OF OTHER NATO/WP FORCES; AND (C) THE AREA OF APPLICATION. RUTH IS CHARY ABOUT REOPENING THE ENTIRE QUESTION OF WHETHER PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS SHOULD BE DROPPED PER SE, THE QUESTION RAISED IN REFTEL 2.D. HE ALSO FEELS THAT THE PROPOSED FOOTNOTE TO PARA 23 OF ALLIED PAPER (REFTEL PARA 3) WOULD HAVE AN UNSETTLING EFFECT ON THE ALLIANCE AT THIS TIME AND HE THEREFORE COUNSELS US NOT TO ADVANCE FOOTNOTE.

3. RUTH AGREES THAT PREPARATIONS FOR MBFR NEGOTIATIONS AND DRAFT OPENING STATEMENTS SHOULD BE CARRIED ON WITH URGENT REVIEW OF PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES IN MIND. HE SAID HE THOUGHT ONLY U.S. OPENING STATEMENT SO FAR TOUCHED ON THESE QUESTIONS. RUTH EMPHASIZED THAT FRG ALSO WISHED TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN URGENT REVIEW OF PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES.

4. AS TO (A) SPECIFIC PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES TO BE INCLUDED, RUTH SAID FRG BELIEVES THE ALLIED MBFR NEGOTIATORS SHOULD HAVE A TRY AT NEGOTIATING PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS. IN THE GERMAN VIEW, I ("...MOVEMENTS OF U.S. AND SOVIET FORCES INTO THE AREA...") SHOULD BE THE FOCAL POINT FOR WESTERN NEGOTIATORS; III ("LIMITS ON SIZE, LOCATIONS, NUMBER AND DURATION OF MAJOR EXERCISES...") SHOULD BE DEALT WITH LATER AND CAREFULLY EXAMINED FOR ITS IMPLICATIONS VIS-A-VIS WESTERN DEFENSE; II AND IV SHOULD BE FURTHER EXAMINED; AND URGENT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO A POSSIBLE NEW PRE-REDUCTION MEASURE ("I-BIS") BARRING CHANGES IN FORCE AND EQUIPMENT LEVELS DURING THE TIME OF MBFR-I NEGOTIATIONS. IN SHORT, FRG BELIEVES THE ALLIES SHOULD TRY TO

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NEGOTIATE SOME PRE-REDUCTION STABILIZING MEASURE(S),

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INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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PREFERS TO LIMIT SUCH MEASURES TO I AND PERHAPS "I-BIS,"
IS PREPARED TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT II AND IV, AND
REMAINS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO III AS A PRE-REDUCTION
MEASURE AND SOMEWHAT SKEPTICAL REGARDING III'S IMPLICA-
TIONS FOR WESTERN DEFENSE IN ANY CASE.

5. AS TO (B) APPLICATION OF MEASURES, WHILE I IS
EXPLICITLY LIMITED TO U.S. AND SOVIET FORCES, GERMANS

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FAVOR MULTILATERALIZING APPLICATION OF OTHER AGREED MEASURES, SUCH AS PERHAPS "I-BIS" AND II/IV, TO OTHER NATO/WP FORCES AS WELL.

6. RUTH EMPHASIZED THAT THE ABOVE REPRESENTED HIS PRELIMINARY REACTIONS AND PROMISED TO GET BACK TO US AFTER ACCORDING FURTHER URGENT CONSIDERATION TO U.S. POSITION. BESIDES ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS, RUTH SAID IT WOULD BE NECESSARY AT SOME POINT TO FOCUS ON THE NATURE OF PRE-REDUCTION AND REDUCTION AGREEMENTS WHICH ALLIES DESIRE. RUTH SAID HE MAY VISIT BRUSSELS EARLY NEXT WEEK IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE TO URGENT REVIEW OF PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS.
HILLENBRAND

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